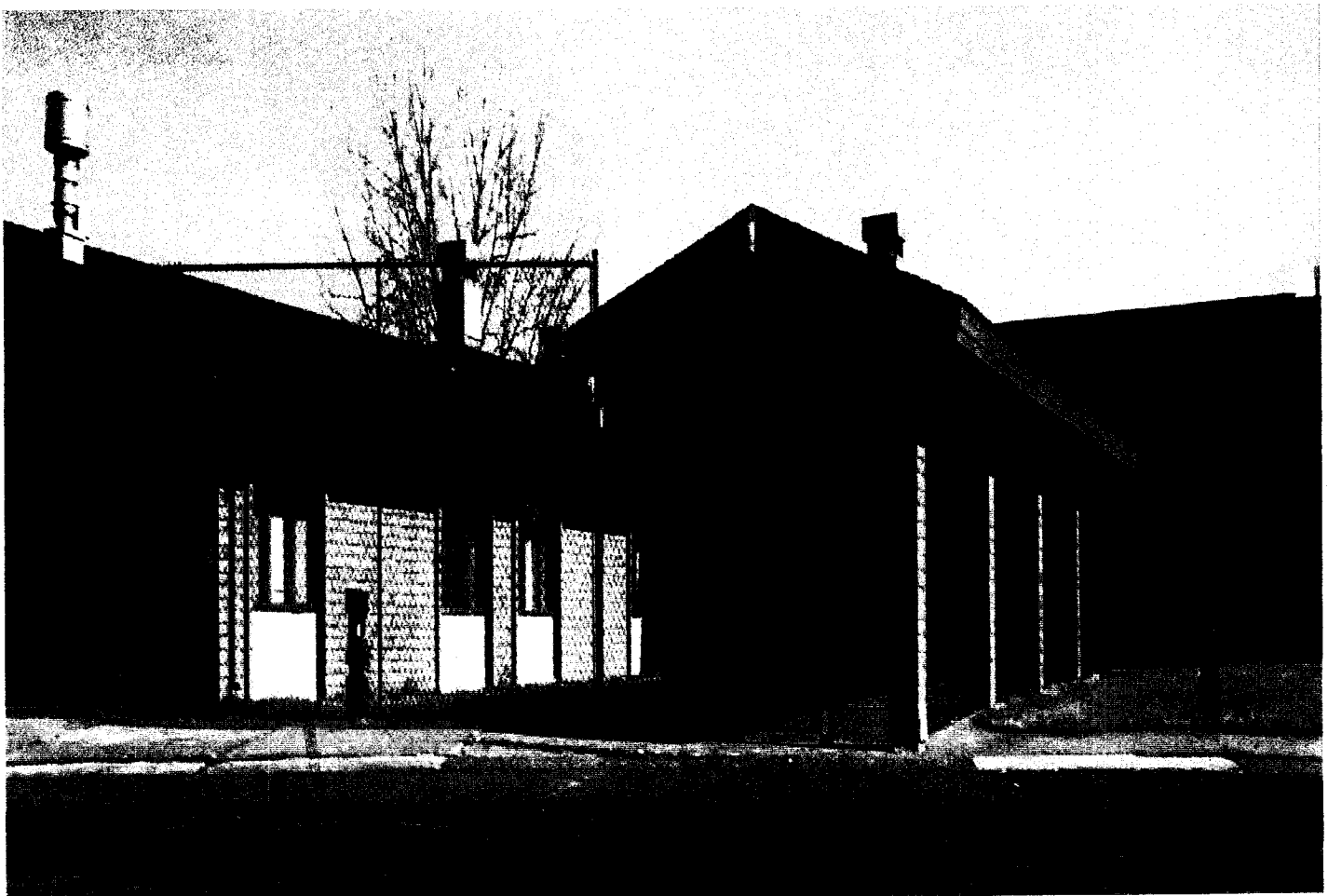


Warm Springs Addictions Treatment & Change Program

WATCH EAST Fourth and Subsequent Felony DUI Program Glendive, Montana



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HISTORY

The Montana sentencing statute (M.C.A. 61-8-731) was revised in the 2001 Montana Legislature to allow the Department of Corrections to place fourth and subsequent DUI offenders in a treatment facility rather than prison. The sentence is for 13 months. However, if the offender successfully completes the six-month program, the remainder of the sentence (seven months), may be served on probation. When an offender does not participate, or is deemed inappropriate for treatment in a Modified Therapeutic Community, they are placed at a state prison or jail for 13 months.

The WATCH Program is a partnership between Community, Counseling, and Correctional Services, Inc. (CCCS, Inc.) and the Montana Department of Corrections (MDOC). The WATCH program opened on February 1, 2002 in Warm Springs, Montana and was the culmination of efforts by CCCS, Inc. and the MDOC to provide an alternative, proactive response, to traditional sentencing of adult felony DUI offenders.

On February 1, 2005, through a cooperative effort with the community of Glendive, the Montana Department of Corrections, and Community Counseling and Correctional Services, WATCH East opened its doors to 40 Family Members (offenders) who transferred from the Warm Springs (WATCH West) facility. WATCH East is based on the same program philosophy and treatment model as WATCH West. It is an intense six-month, cognitive/behavioral based addictions treatment community designed to assist offenders in the development of skills needed to integrate fully into society.

All female felony DUI offenders and felony DUI offenders from the Eastern part of the state are screened for admission to WATCH East. All offenders who apply to the program for acceptance are screened by a committee which is comprised of a law enforcement officer, a probation officer, a member of the community of Glendive, a member of the neighborhood where the WATCH East facility is located, the Administrator and Treatment Services Supervisor of WATCH East. The WATCH East program has the ability to treat 40 male and female Family Members (offenders) at any one time.

While WATCH East has been open for less than two years it was able to implement a very successful treatment model which has been used at the WATCH West program in Warm Springs since February 2002.

OVERVIEW

The Therapeutic Community Model simulates a healthy family environment and teaches the Family Members (offenders) to live together in a pro-social manner while holding themselves and others accountable. The therapeutic community is the cornerstone of the treatment model at WATCH East, but an effective (research proven) curriculum is also an important part of the treatment model. Currently, participants are involved in treatment, programming, and groups, for 9 hours per day during their six-month stay. The curriculum includes Wanberg and Milkman's "Criminal Conduct and Substance Abuse Treatment: Strategies for Self-improvement and Change"; Stanton Samenow's "Overcoming Errors in Thinking"; and groups with a strong emphasis on Criminal Thinking Errors, Twelve Step Programming, Relapse Prevention, and Skill Building.

COMPONENTS OF PROGRAM

Assessment and Screening:

Within the first week of admission a series of assessments are completed to determine medical status, mental health status, level of risk and risk factors for recidivism, level of substance abuse, Life Skills Inventory and Level of Service Inventory (LSI-R), and other assessments necessary to develop a comprehensive individualized treatment plan.

Modified Therapeutic Community Model:

When compared to the traditional model, the modified model is more staff intensive and structured. The WATCH model consists of the following components:

- Family Structure and Roles

- Community meetings held twice daily

- Programming conducted within the family unit

- Therapeutic tasks

- Responsibility and discipline

- Rules and regulations

The family unit has two chemical dependency counselors, one case manager, and two counselor technicians. In addition, at least two security officers are on duty at all times.

Chemical Dependency Programming:

The cognitive/behavioral based curriculum of Wanberg and Milkman which provides for three distinct phases in the program:

- Phase I: Challenge to Change or the reflective contemplative phase.

- Phase II: Challenge to Change Action Phase which involves the offender in an active demonstration of implementing and practicing change.

- Phase III: Ownership of Change which stresses the concepts of relapse and recidivism prevention.

- Twelve Step Programming which focuses on the completion of the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

- AA and NA Meetings to encourage active participation in the groups upon discharge.

Cognitive Principles and Restructuring:

The focus of this cognitive based curriculum is on criminal thinking reports and identifying each individual's criminal cycle and developing an action plan to change the behavior.

Criminal Thinking Errors:

This is a structured program which explores the underlying reasons for negative and anti-social thinking. It offers methods to redirect thinking with actions which help the offender achieve pro-social behaviors.

Anger Management:

Offenders are screened for participation in Anger Management. This group is held weekly and consists of six to eight sessions which are aimed at dealing with the underlying causes for anger. It also teaches positive pro-social ways to deal with angry thoughts and feelings. At WATCH East, men and women are separated for anger management classes.

Life Skill Development:

All offenders at WATCH East participate in a college level life skills class. Each offender receives three credits from Dawson Community College when they complete the 16-week course. The college also donated computers to the program so each offender completes and leaves the program with a professional resume. In addition to learning new ways to enjoy life without alcohol, the offenders also learn about managing finances, communicable diseases, interpersonal skills, and other health, and employment related skills.

Victim's Issues/Restorative Justice:

This is another cognitive/behavioral approach to teach the offenders the serious consequences of their actions. They learn that they have caused pain and trauma to their victims. They also develop empathy for the people they have hurt.

Grief Group:

WATCH East uses the workbooks "Life Beyond Loss: A Workbook for Incarcerated Men" and "Picking Up the Pieces" both written by Beverly Welo, as well as other resources to help offenders deal with loss issues. This is a co-gender group which last 6-8 weeks and focuses on the importance of dealing with loss through a healthy process of grieving.

Men's and Women's Issues:

These groups are separated by gender and address the unique needs and issues which face men and women. These groups are led by the offenders and focus on relationships, parenting and other issues that are pertinent to group members.

Dialectical Behavior Therapy:

This group lasts for 6-8 weeks and teaches skills that are imperative to emotional regulation and distress tolerance. The overall goal is to provide skills that are needed for emotional stability.

Survivors:

Female offenders are self or treatment team referred to this group. The group focuses on supporting victims of physical and sexual abuse. The goal is to help women move from surviving to thriving.

Women's Art Workshops:

Female offenders are given an opportunity to express themselves non-verbally through art. The goal is to provide an alternative way to express emotions, dreams, and fears which is less threatening and encourages empowerment.

GED Classes:

Dawson Community College provides a GED instructor who conducts classes four days per week.

OTHER PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Urinalysis testing
DNA testing
Incentives and sanctions
Recreational programming

PROGRAM EVALUATION

The program is continually evaluated focusing on the structure and process of the program itself. In addition, each offender anonymously evaluates their treatment experience before leaving the program.

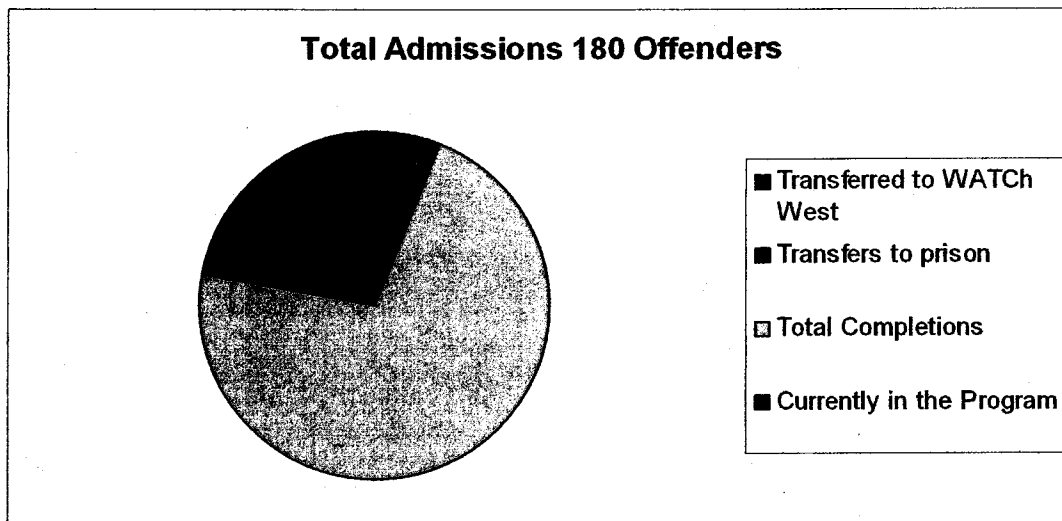
Following discharge, outcome measures are tracked by using:

Arrest data
Technical violations
Revocations
Convictions
Degree of compliance with Aftercare/Discharge Plan
Continuity of Care
Sobriety information
AA Attendance

Offenders who complete the program are tracked for five years. Methods of tracking include:

Using the Adult Corrections Information System (ASICS)PRO Files for convictions and technical violations.
Collection of this information from Probation and Parole Officers on a bi-annual basis.

WATCH East was activated on February 1, 2005.
Data through July of 2006 shows:



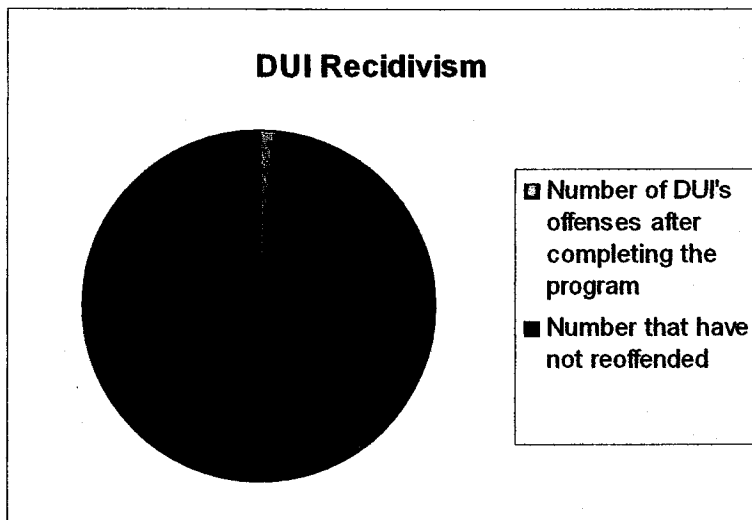
Total Admissions: 180

Transferred to WATCH West at Warm Springs: 7

Transfers to prison: 4 (2 for rule violations and 2 voluntarily resigned because WATCH was too much work)

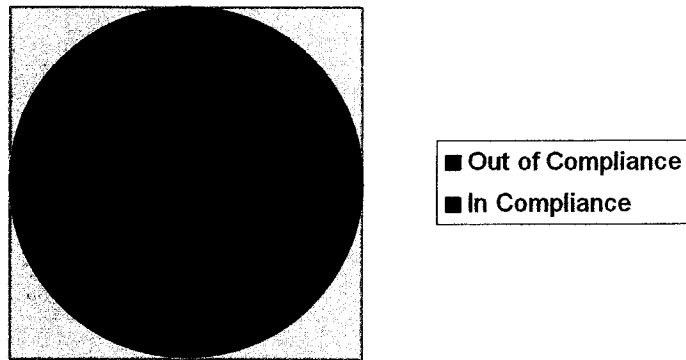
Total Completions: 129

Currently in the program: 40



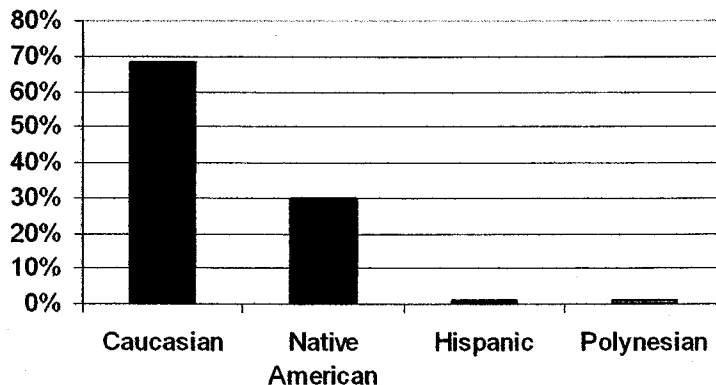
Of the 129 offenders who have successfully completed the program, **only two have been convicted of an additional DUI, for a success rate of over 99%. We believe that these successful numbers reflect significant progress in increasing public safety, reducing recidivism, while saving lives and taxpayer dollars.**

In Compliance with Probation



However, we don't just monitor if offenders get another DUI. The offenders are tracked through bi-annual reports by their respective probation officers. Collective results currently indicate that 33 offenders are out of compliance with some aspect of their probation. They may not be employed, not going to school, not paying their fines, not attending AA, driving without permission, alcohol use, or other rule violations. **This shows 75% of WATCH East's successful graduates are in full compliance with all aspects of their probation. Clearly, these outcomes are indicative of the WATCH program's effectiveness.**

Ethnicity of Offenders



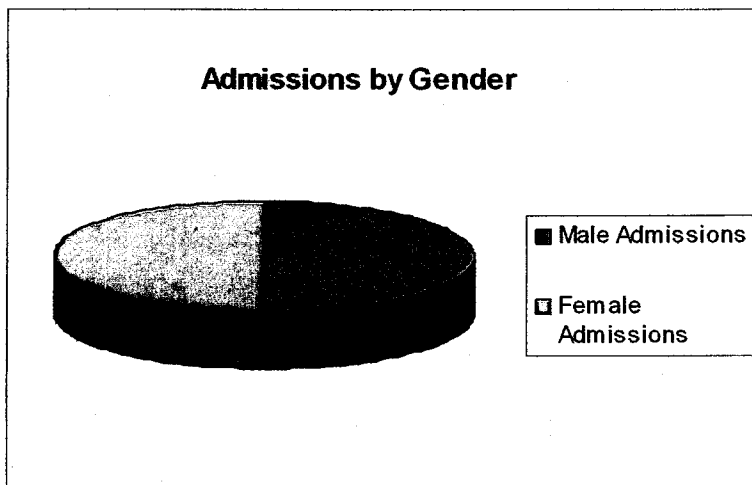
Ethnicity of Offenders is:

68% Caucasian

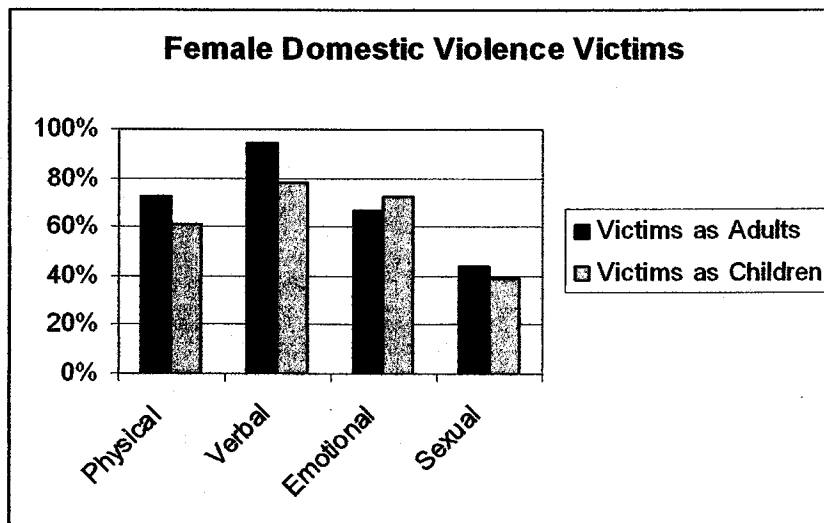
30% Native American

1% Hispanic

1% Polynesian



Preference is given to females since this is the only state approved treatment facility for felony female DUI offenders. The greatest number of women participating in treatment at one time was 28 and the lowest number was 13. Since opening, male admissions make up 50.29% and females make up 49.71% of the total population. Currently, 20 women and 20 men are at WATCH East.



While women make up about half the population their medical and counseling needs exceed most males. In a recent survey at WATCH East not only do the women have chronic alcohol abuse problems but nearly all have been the victims of violence and abuse, many since childhood. **We have tailored the program to recognize these issues and to empower women to break the cycle of violence.**

Summary: It is very apparent that WATCH East has been incredibly effective in reducing recidivism. Based on the outcome measures, only two offenders have been convicted of another DUI while 75% are in compliance with all aspects their probation.